

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 TRSE-00 EB-11 ABF-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSR-01 AID-20 IGA-02 (ADP) W
----- 056589

R 280400 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 892

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PASS TREASURY AND DEFENSE

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EFIN

SUBJECT: U. S. GOVERNMENT BANKING FACILITY

1. DAO HAS REQUESTED AMERICAN EXPRESS BANKING FACILITY TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR A " SERVICE CARD" SYSTEM FOR VIETNAM. THIS CARD WOULD BE GIVEN TO ACCOUNT HOLDERS IN USG BANKING FACILITY WHO WOULD BE ABLE USE CARD IN VARIOUS RETAIL OUTLETS, SUCH AS PX, COMMISSARY AND CLUBS. THESE RETAIL OUTLETS WOULD THEN NOTIFY BANK OF TRANSACTIONS AND BANK WOULD TRANSFER FUNDS FROM INDIVIDUALS' ACCOUNTS TO THOSE OF RETAIL OUTLETS. MAJOR PURPOSE OF SERVICE CARD IS TO REDUCE REQUIREMENT FOR DOLLAR CURRENCY AND PERMIT MISSION TO ESTABLISH LIMITS ON AMOUNTS OF DOLLAR CURRENCY DISBURSED TO INDIVIDUALS. TO BE EFFECTIVE, SERVICE CARDS AND ACCOUNTS WOULD HAVE TO BE AVAILABLE TO U. S. CITIZEN EMPLOYEES OF U. S. INVITED CONTRACTORS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO U. S. RETAIL OUTLETS. PRESENTLY, THIS CATEGORY OF PERSONNEL DOES NOT HAVE BANKING PRIVILEGES. ACCORDING TO OUR FILES, THIS REFLECTS GVN DESIRES RATHER THAN USG POLICY. WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED AS TO WHETHER TREASURY OR DEFENSE WOULD OBJECT TO EXTENSION OF BANKING PRIVILEGES TO U. S. CITIZENS EMPLOYEES OF U. S.- INVITED

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CONTRACTORS, IF NATIONAL BANK DOES NOT OBJECT.

2. SINCE TERMINATION OF MBF, MANY U. S.- INVITED CONTRACTORS HAVE
PREFERRED TO RETAIN CONNECTION WITH COMMERCIAL FACILITIES OF NOTE:
GIVEN PRESSURES FROM
MANY QUARTERS ON ARCHBISHOP TO SEVER HIS RELATIONS WITH
LYSSARIDES, THE SYRIA TOUR SEEMS ALMOST A DELIBERATE CHALLENGE,
TO DEMONSTRATE HIS STRENGTH WITH ARCHBISHOP WHILE HE PURSUES HIS
USUAL PRO- ARAB LINE.)

5. APRIL 27 HALKIN SESI ATTACKED ATHENS " TWO FACED" CYPRUS
POLICY, BLAMED GREEK GOVT FOR ISLAND' S WAVE OF VIOLENCE. HALKIN
SESI DERIDED GREEK GOVT PROFESSES SUPPORT FOR INTERCOMMUNAL
TALKS, SAYING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE SUCH STATEMENTS WHEN THOSE
SPREADING TERROR FIRMLY CONTROLLED BY ATHENS. PAPER
CONCLUDES IF GREECE WANTS PEACE IN CYPRUS, SHE MUST HEED TURKISH
WARNINGS AND ABANDON DREAMS OF ENOSIS. (NOTE: SINCE BOZKURT
DID NOT ORCHESTRATE, WE ASSUME THAT EDIT REFLECTS EX V. P. KUCHUK' S
INITIATIVE RATHER THAN TCPA OR ANKARA INVESTIGATION).

6. THE SEVEN DETAINED ARAB TERRORISTS WERE CHARGED WITH ARMED
ATTACKS ON ISRAELI AMBASSADOR' S HOUSE AND AT AIRPORT. THEY WILL
BE CONTINUED IN CUSTODY. PRELIMINARY INQUIRY TO BE HEARD MAY 14.
GRANT

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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